

I claim:

1. A torquer for maneuvering a guidewire, comprising:

a top arm having a top distal end and a top proximal end;

5 a clamping tongue disposed downwardly from said top distal end;

a bottom arm having a bottom distal end and a bottom proximal end, said bottom proximal end flexibly connected to said top proximal end by means of a flap hinge;

10 a proximal slit defined horizontally within said flap hinge; and,

a distal slit defined vertically within said clamping tongue, wherein said proximal slit and said distal slit are adapted to receive said guidewire.

15 2. The torquer of claim 1, further comprising a wire channel means for positioning said guidewire between said bottom arm and said top arm when said top arm and said bottom arm are clamped together.

3. The torquer of claim 1, further comprising a torque-assist  
20 area defined on both said top arm and said bottom arm.

4. The torquer of claim 1, further comprising a grip surface defined on said top arm near said top distal end.

5. The torquer of claim 1, further comprising a grip surface defined on said bottom arm near said bottom distal end.

6. The torquer of claim 1, further comprising a means for releasably clamping said clamping tongue to said bottom distal end.

7. A torquer for maneuvering a guidewire, comprising:

5 a top arm having an underlying surface;  
a bottom arm hingedly connected to said top arm by means of a flap hinge, said bottom arm having a top surface opposed and aligned with said underlying surface of said top arm; and,

10 a wire channel means for positioning said guidewire between said bottom arm and said top arm, said wire channel means integrally formed on at least one of said top surface or said underlying surface.

8. The torquer of claim 7, further comprising a proximal slit  
15 defined horizontally within said flap hinge.

9. The torquer of claim 7, further comprising a torque-assist area defined on both said top arm and said bottom arm.

10. The torquer of claim 7, further comprising a grip surface defined on said top arm.

20 11. The torquer of claim 7, further comprising a grip surface defined on said bottom arm.

12. The torquer of claim 7, further comprising a means for releasably clamping said top arm to said bottom arm.

13. A torquer for maneuvering a guidewire, comprising:

a top arm having a top distal end and a top proximal end;  
a bottom arm hingedly connected to said top arm and having  
a bottom distal end and a bottom proximal end;  
a bottom lip abutting said bottom distal end;  
5 a clamping tongue disposed downwardly from said top distal  
end;  
a distal slit defined vertically within said clamping  
tongue adapted to receive said guidewire; and  
a tongue clip formed integral to said clamping tongue  
10 projecting upwardly and inwardly from a tip of said  
clamping tongue configured to snap onto said bottom lip of  
said bottom distal end wherein said top arm may be  
releasably clamped to said bottom arm with said guidewire  
retained within said distal slit.

15 14. The torquer of claim 13, further comprising a torque-assist  
area defined on both said top arm and said bottom arm.

15. The torquer of claim 13, further comprising a grip surface  
defined on said top arm.

16. The torquer of claim 13, further comprising a proximal slit  
20 defined horizontally within said flap hinge.

17. The torquer of claim 13, further comprising a wire channel  
means for positioning said guidewire between said bottom  
arm and said top arm when said top arm and said bottom arm  
are clamped together, said wire channel means integrally

formed on an underlying surface of said top arm and a top surface of said bottom arm.